

to the subject matter of the claims as they were amended before the Preliminary Examining Authority.

In accordance with a telephone conference between the undersigned and Examiner Shelby Vigil on 10 January 1997, this preliminary amendment adds new claims beginning with claim number 8, and applicant's preliminary amendment filed October 21, 1996, will not be entered.

Signed at Houston in the County of Harris, and State of Texas, this 144 day of 97.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box PCT, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this 14th day of January, 1997.

Richard C. Auchterlonie
Name of Applicant, assignee,
or Registered Representative

Signature

Reg. 30,607

Date of Signature